

T H E
Line of Righteousness
A N D
J U S T I C E
Stretched forth over All
M E R C H A N T S, &c.
A N D

AN EXHORTATION unto all Friends and People whatsoever, who are *Merchants, Tradesmen, Husbandmen, or Sea-men*, who deal in Merchandize, trade in Buying and Selling by Sea or Land, or deal in Husbandry, That ye all do that which is Just, Equal and Righteous in the sight of G O D and Man one to another, and to all men; And that ye use *Just Weights* and *Just Measures*, and speak and do that which is *True, Just* and *Right* in all things; that so your Conversations, Lives, Practices and Tongues, may preach to all People, and answer the *Good, Just* and *Righteous Principle* of God in them all. In which ye may be serviceable unto God, and to the Creation in your Generation, and a blessing both to G O D and Man.

He that walketh in his Integrity, is Just; and blessed shall be his Children after him, Prov. 20. 7.

Unjust Weights, and Unjust Measures, both these are an Abomination to the Lord, Vers. 10.

George Fox

G. F.

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Time of Birth

1800

1810

1820

1830

1840

1850

1860

1870

1880

1890

1900

*The Line of Righteousness and Justice stretched forth
over all Merchants, &c.*

ALL Friends every-where, live in the Seed of God, which is the Righteousness it self, and inherits the Wisdom, and is the Wisdom it self; with which Wisdom ye may order, rule and govern all things which be under your hands (which God hath given you) to his Glory; govern and order with his Wisdom all the Creatures that ye have under you, and all Exchangings, Merchandizing, Husbandry; do what ye do in the Wisdom of God, and with it, which is pure from above and gentle, and easie to be entertained: With this Wisdom (which is not earthly, sensual, nor devilish) you do good unto all, and hurt no one, nor your selves; for it is pure, and preserves pure.

So this is the Word of the Lord God to you all; Keep all in the Power of God over all the unrighteous World; which Power of God was before it was: in which Power of God you will be preserved in Justice, in Truth, in equal Ballance, and Weights and Measures; in the Truth, Uprightness and Honesty to all People. So all here in this are serviceable to God in their Generation, and to the Creation, and to God and it a blessing. *Do rightly*, that is the Word of the Lord God to you all, whether ye be Tradesmen, of what Calling or Profession, or Sort soever, or Husbandmen: *Do rightly, justly, truly, honestly, equally* to all people, in all things; and that is according to that of God in every man, and the Witness of God, the Wisdom of God, and the Life of God in your selves; and there you are serviceable in your Generation, labouring in the thing that is good, which doth not spoil, nor destroy, nor waste the Creation upon the lusts.

And all *Merchants* whatsoever, *Sea-men*, and *Traffickers* by Sea or Land; This is the Word of the Lord God to you all: *Do justly, speak truly to all people whatsoever*: then are ye a Dread and a Terror to the Unjust: *Wrong no man, over-reach no man* (if it may be never so much to your advantage) but *be plain, righteous and holy*; in this are you serviceable to your own Na-

tion and others, by your change and exchanging of things and Merchandize, and to the Lord God ye come to be a blessing in the Creation and Generation. *Live in the Life of Truth, and let the Truth speak in all things and Righteousness; and let Justice be acted and Holiness in all things, without any Guile, Fraud or Deceit; and so that is well-pleasing to God and Men, and according to that of God in every one.* And this sheweth forth the fruits of Believers, that are passed from death to life; from *Death*, which came by *Sin*, the Original of which is the *Devil*. So being come from Death to Life, which goes over him; over him, I say, who is the Author of all Unrighteousness: now in the Truth and Righteousness you will all have Peace, Favour and the Blessing of the Lord in all things, and that keepeth out the covetous mind, and covetous desires; the Power and Life of God that goes over the Power of Death, which brought the Sin: that which keepeth over this, hath the blessing and the encrease of the Heavenly Riches; and that shall not want the Creatures, nor any good thing from them the Lord will not withhold. So be careful to do good in all things to all people whatsoever: in the fear of God serve Him, and be diligent, and not stubborn in any thing, but pliable in the Power of God, that keeps you over all the Powers of Unrighteousness; acting so in that, that ye may be a good favour in all Nations, Islands and Places where ye come, in the hearts of all people, doing truly and plainly, uprightly, faithfully, justly and honestly, according to the Light of Christ Jesus in every man; that that you may witness all: then will your Words, Lives, and Conversations preach and manifest, that ye serve God in the new Life; and that ye have put off the old man and his deeds, which are unrighteous; and that ye have put on the new man, which is after God in Righteousness and Holiness, according to his Image.

Loath Deceit and all Unrighteousness, Hard-heartedness, Wronging, Cozening, Cheating or Unjust Dealing, but live and reign in the *Righteous Life and Power of God, and Wisdom* (that presseth all the other down) to answer the *good and just Principle* in all people; and that will win people to deal with you, *Doing Truth to all, without respect to persons; to high or low whatsoever, Young or Old, Rich or Poor:* and so here your lives and words will preach where-ever ye come.

All *Husbandmen* and *Dealers* about *Husbandry* whatsoever, Cattel or Ground, to you all this is the Word of the Lord God; *Do rightly, holily, justly, honestly, plainly and truly* to all men and people whomsoever ye have to deal withall; wrong not any in any case, though it be never so to your advantage: Deny your selves, and live in the Cross of Christ, the Power of God, for that destroyes Injustice; and without Holiness none can ever see the Lord; and out of Righteousness there is no true Peace. Therefore all, of what sort soever, or what Calling soever, Do justly (whether ye be Masters or Servants, Fathers or Mothers, Sons or Daughters) to one another, and to all, *Do that which is Just and Righteous, uprightly and holily*; in that you will have Peace, and see God.

So in all Husbandry, *Speak Truth, act Truth*, doing justly and uprightly in all your Actions, in all your Practices, in all your Words, in all your Dealings, Buysings, Sellings, Changings and Commerce with people, *Let Truth be the head, and practise it*: And in all your words let Truth be spoken: This brings Righteousness forth, and Deceit to the Judgment-bar. Wrong no man, nor covet, nor cheat, nor oppress, nor defraud any man, in any case; But keep your Dominion in the Truth, in Righteousness, Holiness and Equity, in the Power and Light and Wisdom of Christ. In this you answer the Light of Christ in every one, and are a blessing to the Lord God, and to your Generation you are serviceable; and comes to walk in the new Life, in which the Righteous Holy God is served: in which Righteousness ye have Peace; and in which Holiness ye see God: For the Kingdom of God stands in Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the holy Ghost.

So speak the Truth, whether Merchants or Tradesmen; and all sorts of people whatsoever in all your Occasions, and in all your Tradings, Dealings and Doings, *speak the Truth, act in the Truth, and walk in the Truth*; and this brings Righteousness forth: for it answereth the Witness of God in every one, Which lets every one see all the Deeds and Actions they have done amiss, and Words which they have spoken amiss: So the Witness of God within them ariseth a swift Witness against them, for their Words which they have spoken amiss, and for their Actions which they have done amiss, and brings them to the Judgment.

Judgment-Bar, and to Condemnation. Here Righteousness goes forth, and here the sweet savour to the Lord God begins to ascend; and Truth & Equity ariseth both to be acted & spoken.

So ye all Friends of what Calling soever, that dwell in the Power of God, and feel the Power of God, and the Light of Christ Jesus: *Dwell in that, act in that*; that ye may answer that of God in every one upon the Earth, with your *Actions*, and by your *Conversations*, and by your *Words*, being *right, just and true*: this goes over the *unjust, untrue, unholy and unrighteous* in all the whole world; and reacheth to the good and true Principle of God in all people, which tells them when they do not do *equally, justly, righteously and holily*. So that is the Word of God to you all Friends, of what Calling soever ye be: *Live in the Power of Truth, and Wisdom of God*, to answer that just Principle of God in all people upon the Earth: and so ye answering of it, thereby ye come to be, as a City set upon a Hill, which is above that Mountain that is in the whole World, that lies above the Just Principle of God in every one there, which the Power of God goes over. So let your Lives preach, let your Light shine, that your works may be seen, that your Father may be glorified; that your fruits may be unto Holiness; and that your end may be Everlasting Life. *Dwell in the Power of the Lord God, and Light and Life*, with which ye may feel and see before the Unrighteousness was: In this you will know the Everlasting Righteousness brought forth, which answereth the Righteous Principle of God in every one, to which they must come down, to lead them and guide them, to teach them to speak and act Truth justly, righteously and holily: and that hath the Dominion, which doth *justly, holily and righteously* speak, act and think: and this hath the praise of God; and they who do so, come to answer that which God requires, *To love Mercy, do justly, and to walk humbly with God*. And this is more than all the Talkers of Justice, Righteousness and Holiness, whose Life denies, what their Tongues profess and talk of: by that God and Christ is dishonoured. So these are no good Example, neither serviceable in their Generation nor Creation; nor any, but them who live in the Power of God, and in his Wisdom; in which they have the *Righteousness, Peace, Truth, Holiness, Justice and Equity*: This is comely and favourable both to God and man.

And

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And all of what Trade or Calling soever ; *Keep out of Debt ; owe to no man any thing but Love.* Go not beyond your Estates, lest you bring your selves to Trouble, and Cumber, and a Snare ; keep low and down in all things ye act. For a man that would be great, and goes beyond his Estate, lifts himself up, runs into Debt, and lives highly of other mens means ; he is a waster of other mens, and a destroyer : he is not serviceable to the Creation, but a destroyer of the Creation and Creatures, and cumbereth himself and troubleth others, and is lifted up, who would appear to be some body ; but being from the *Honest, the Just and Good*, falls into the *Shame*. Therefore dwell every one of you, under your own Vine (that know Redemption from the Earth) and seek not to be great, but in that, and dwell in the Truth, Justice, Righteousness and Holiness ; and there is the blessing enlarged.

And no one (of what Calling soever) run into Debt, Usury and Exaction ; for many people have been wronged thereby ; they that have taken of them, who by it have appeared great, and lived above what they were, and so would seem to be : Therefore be *true and honest, holy and righteous*, every one in that which ye have : *Owe to none anything but Love* ; and in that ye will feel the Blessing, and come to be serviceable in the Creation ; serving one another in *Love*, and not in *Oppression and Taxation* : and that keeps all down, in the Power, Wisdom and Life of God ; and bends all minds to strive for one anothers good, and to help one another in that which is *good, just and righteous*, and serve one another in that ; in that you live in the Life, and in the Seed, the Power and Righteousness that is everlasting, which is of God and his Wisdom, through which ye come to answer the *good, just and holy Principle of God* in every one upon the Earth ; In which Power ye have Dominion ; in which ye come to live the Life which is well-pleasing to God ; a Life which shall stand when the World is ended. And in this Life, Power and Wisdom of God, that is endless, you are a Terrour to all that be in the Wisdom below ; you are a Terrour to all that be in the unrighteous Actions and Words : And you are a Terrour to all that be in the unjust and unequal doings, and all the Defrauders, Cozeners, Cheaters, Over-reachers, Lyars and Wrong-dealers. In the Power of God, and his Life,
in

in which ye have *Justice*, ye have *Truth*, ye have *Equity*, ye have *Righteousness*; and it cometh to be to you as natural; your Words, your Lives, your Conversations, your Presence, and your Practices, both judge and preach: And you are a Terror to all them, in the *just Life* and *Everlasting Righteousness*, Christ Jesus living in him, and in his Wisdom, and walking in him, and speaking the Truth as it is in him in all things: your Life and your Words are a Terror to all that speak not Truth in your dealings, and to all that act not truly and righteously in their doings, your Lives do judge them, and are a Judge to them; and through your Constancy, Faithfulness and Life, which is Everlasting, you bring many to amendment: For both Life, Actions, Words and Conversation preach (all these preach to the unrighteous world) being in the Everlasting Righteousness, which over the world hath dominion; through which Life, Power, Seed of God and Wisdom, you reach and answer the good and just Principle of God in every one; and it you will make at the last to confess you, though they may go on in the contrary for a time.

So in that Power, Wisdom, Dominion, and Strength that gives you Dominion over all, and to answer that of God in all: In the Love and Power of the Lord Jesus Christ preserve and keep you all; in his Wisdom, Life, Seed and Dominion; that to Him you may be a blessing, and a good favour in the hearts of all people: and let all your Actions and Words be one with the Witness of God in all People, *Amen*.

The Wicked and Unrighteous owe Envy and Hatred, and wish that they pay their Debt. But the Righteous, Just, and Harmless, who owe nothing to any man but Love; with that they pay their Debt. But Drunkards, Adulterers, Swearers, Rioters, who eat and drink and rise up to play, and live in pleasures wantonly upon the Earth, Fighters, Quarrellers, Envious, Malicious, Unjust, Unrighteous; all such Actions and Practices, judge out of the Power of God, and out of his Kingdom.

THE END.

